(c) in what way the officials made any difference to decision making process or initiate path-breaking administrative decisions to justify a two year extension of service; and

(d) the steps proposed to revert to old system of uniform age of retirement to protect morale of officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) In view of the vital importance of the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Home Affairs and to give a reasonable tenure to the officers selected to head these two Ministries, Fundamental Rule 56 has been amended incorporating a proviso that the Central Government may, if it considers necesary in public interest so to do, give extension in service to Defence Secretary and Home Secretary for such period or periods as it may deem proper on a case-to-case basis, subject to the condition that the total term of incumbents of these posts, who are given such extension in service, does not exceed two years. There is no proposal to revert to the old system.

Meeting of Civil Service Officials

4654. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister addressed a meeting of Central Service Officials on 21st April, 2007 and proposed an "Agents of Change" description for bureaucrats and officials, etc.;

(b) the implications of the term "Agents of Change" for Civil Servants;

(c) what would be the method of identifying and selecting "Agents of Change";

(d) whether such "Agents of Change" would have a tenure and performance based pay package;

(e) the steps proposed to carefully review catalytic ideas like "Agents of Change" and "Fixed tenure" for some officials; and

(f) the damage control steps that would be in-built in such experimentation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (f) Hon'ble Prime Minister, whilst addressing the Civil Servants on the Second Civil Service Day on 21st April, 2007 had, *inter alia*, mentioned of a proposal for appointment of Agents of Change. The proposal is at the concept stage.

Ex-CMD of SECL

†4655. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.B.I. had raided the premises of ex-C.M.D. of South Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (SECL) in the year 2005;

(b) if so, whether C.B.I. had lodged an F.I.R. against the said C.M.D.; and

(c) if so, in which month and year, the said C.M.D. was issued notice by the court to appear before it and the status of the above case at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The CBI has registered a case No. RC.8(A)/2005-ACB/Ranchi on 02.04.2005 against Ex-CMD, South Eastern Coalfield Ltd. (SECL) and others.

(c) The Trial Court had issued a notice on 10.11.2006 to the Ex-CMD, SECL, and in response, he appeared before the Court on 22.03.2007. The case is under trial and is at the stage of appearance of the accused

Autonomy in functioning of CBI

4656. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objective view on principle relating to the autonomy in the functioning of C.B.I.;

(b) whether it could be possible in practice for the Ruling Government:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.